PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title	Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration: A Sierra Nevada Region water purveyor and federal land manager working together to protect water supplies within the Sierra Nevada.
Brief Description	The project will conduct planning needed for projects in the Caples Creek Watershed Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) developed as part of the Forest Service's nationwide Watershed Condition Framework (described in the project pre-application). Efforts will focus on two issues: (1) reintroduction of fire and management of fire-adapted ecosystems, and (2) meadow restoration. EID and the Forest Service will refine areas of the watershed for restoration, develop appropriate restoration actions for each area, identify an implementation schedule, and conduct appropriate environmental review for the actions to be conducted. Planning for fire activities will be focused on the western approximately 4,000 acres of the watershed. Meadows targeted include: Schneider Camp Meadow, Jake Schneider Meadow, Government Meadows, Convict Meadow, and multiple unnamed meadows.Fire suppression over the past century has resulted in decreased forest health and resilience in the Caples Creek watershed. Heavy fuel loading is a concern where pre-settlement fire return intervals were 5 and 35 years, with generally low to mixed severity, and have now lengthened to 35 to 100 years. Lengthened fire return intervals have allowed for accumulations of dead woody materials and a dense understory of brush and/or saplings; and have influenced stand structure, density, and distribution. These conditions have greatly increased the risk of catastrophic fire within the watershed.
	The project will manage for desired fuels conditions by establishing/maintaining treatments that are effective in modifying fire behavior; culturing stand structure and composition to resemble desired conditions; and reducing susceptibility to insect/pathogen and drought-related tree mortality. Desired conditions for the watershed generally resemble pre-settlement conditions with high levels of horizontal and vertical diversity at the landscape scale; species composition that varies by elevation, site productivity, and related environmental factors; and fuel treatments that provide for successful establishment of early seral stage vegetation. Proposed activities will focus on prescribed fire and management of natural ignitions. Ground disturbance, soil compaction, vegetation loss, and altered hydrology, have occurred to varying degrees in meadows within the watershed; and at some sites have led to streambed incision, lowering of
	the groundwater table, and changes in vegetation composition. At Schneider Camp Meadow, for example, impacts (impaired function, hydrologic disruption, vegetation loss, reduced soil productivity) occur from road and trail erosion, vehicle use on the meadow and in the stream

channel, and dispersed recreation. Dispersed recreation has also led to

	impacts to riparian areas and meadows in the vicinity of road segments
	identified on the included map.
	Meadows in desired condition generally have species composition and
	structural diversity of plant and animal communities that provide desired
	habitat conditions and ecological functions; ecological status of
	vegetation that is late seral with a diversity of age classes of hardwood
	shrubs present and regeneration occurring; and are hydrologically
	functional with sites of accelerated erosion stabilized or recovering and
	vegetation roots occurring throughout the soil profile. The WRAP
	indicates that activities that may help achieve these conditions include:
	aspen enhancement, trail rerouting, stabilization of eroded areas, limiting
	access to sensitive areas, and developing recreation opportunities away
	from sensitive areas.
	Historical fire data, Proper Functioning Condition Assessments, long-term
	range condition and monitoring plots, and collected survey data will be
	considered in project development. An interdisciplinary team will develop
	appropriate BMP applications for maintaining/improving water quality.
Total Requested	252,407.34
Amount	232,407.34
Other Fund Proposed	177,407.34
Total Project Cost	429,814.68
Project Category	Pre-Project Due Diligence
- Toject Gategory	, ,
Project Area/Size	4000
Project Area Type	Acres
Have you submitted to	No
SNC this fiscal year?	
Is this application	No
related to other SNC	
funding?	

Project Results	
Environmental site assessment (Phase I/II)	

Project Purpose	Project Purpose Percent
Water Quality	

County

El Dorado
Amador
Alpine
Sub Region
Central
South Central
East

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Mr. Jim Abercrombie,
Title	General Manager
Organization	El Dorado Irrigation District
Primary Address	2890 Mosquito Road, , , Placerville, CA, 95667
Primary Phone/Fax	530-642-4041 Ext.
Primary Email	jmabercrombie@eid.org

PROJECT LOCATION INFORMATION

Project Location

2890 Mosquito Road, , , Placerville, CA, 95646 United States Address:

Water Agency: Kyburz Mutual Water Company

Latitude: 38.40 -120.07 Longitude: Congressional District: n/a Senate: n/a Assembly: n/a Within City Limits: City Name: No

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Grant Application Type	
Grant Application Type:	
Category Two Pre-Project Activities	

PROJECT OTHER CONTACTS INFORMATION

Other Grant Project Contacts

Name: Daniel Corcoran,

Day-to-Day Responsibility 5306424082 Project Role:

Phone:

Phone Ext:

E-mail: dcorcoran@eid.org

UPLOADS

The following pages contain the following uploads provided by the applicant:

Upload Name
Completed Application Checklist
Table of Contents
Full Application Form
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Authorization to Apply or Resolution
Narrative Descriptions
CEQA Documentation
Letters of Support
Project Location Map
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number

Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Parcel Map Showing County Assessors Parcel Number
Photos of the Project Site
Topographic Map
Detailed Budget Form
Letters of Support
Letters of Support

To preserve the integrity of the uploaded document, headers, footers and page numbers have not been added by the system.

Appendix B1 Full Application Checklist

Project Name: Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration: A Sierra Nevada Region water purveyor and federal land manager working together to protect water supplies within the Sierra Nevada.

Applicant: El Dorado Irrigation District & Eldorado National Forest

Please mark each box: check if item is included in the application; mark "N/A" if not applicable to the project. "N/A" identifications must be explained in the application. Please consult with SNC staff prior to submission if you have any questions about the applicability to your project of any items on the checklist. All applications must include a CD including an electronic file of each checklist item, if applicable. The naming convention for each electronic file is listed after each item on the checklist. (Electronic File Name = EFN: "naming convention". file extension choices)

Submission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications

30	iomission requirements for all Category One and Category Two Grant Applications
1.	Completed Application Checklist (EFN: Checklist.doc,.docx,.rtf, or .pdf)
2.	
3.	Ell Application Project Information Form (EFN: Slform.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf)
4.	Authorization to Apply or Resolution (EFN: authorization.doc, .docx, .rtf, or .pdf)
5.	 ☑ Narrative Descriptions - Submit a single document that includes each of the following narrative descriptions (EFN: Narrative.doc, .docx, .rtf) a. ☑ Detailed Project Description (5,000 character maximum) ☑ Project Description including Goals/Results, Scope of Work, Location, Purpose, etc. ☑ Project Summary ☑ Environmental Setting b. ☑ Workplan and Schedule (1,000 character maximum) c. ☑ Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements(1,000 character maximum) d. ☑ Organizational Capacity(1,000 character maximum) e. ☑ Cooperation and Community Support (1,000 character maximum) f. ☑ Long Term Management and Sustainability (1,000 character maximum) g. ☑ Performance Measures (1,000 character maximum)
6.	Supplemental and Supporting documents a. Detailed Budget Form (EFN: Budget.xls, .xlsx) b. Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements, as applicable Restrictions / Agreements (EFN: RestAgree.pdf)

Regulatory Requirements / Permits (EFN: RegPermit.pdf) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation (EFN: CEQA.pdf)
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation (EFN: NEPA.pdf) c. Cooperation and Community Support
Letters of Support (EFN: LOS.pdf)
d. Long-Term Management and Sustainability
Long-Term Management Plan (EFN: LTMP.pdf)
e. Maps and Photos
Project Location Map (EFN: LocMap.pdf)
Parcel Map showing County Assessor's Parcel Number(s) (EFN: ParcelMap.pdf)
Topographic Map (EFN: Topo.pdf)
Photos of the Project Site (10 maximum) (EFN: Photo.jpg, .gif)
f. Additional submission requirements for Conservation Easement Acquisition
applications only
Acquisition Schedule (EFN: acqSched.doc,.docx,.rtf,.pdf)
Willing Seller Letter (EFN: WillSell.pdf)
Real Estate Appraisal (EFN: Appraisal.pdf)
Conservation Easement Language (EFN: CE.pdf)
g. Additional submission requirements for Site Improvement / Restoration Project
applications only
with Pre-application (EFN: Tenure.pdf)
✓ Site Plan (EFN: SitePlan.pdf)
√ A Leases or Agreements (EFN: LeaseAgmnt.pdf)
I certify that the information contained in the Application, including required attachments, is accurate.
Proceedings (2000) (20
In Allen Janey 23, 2012
Signed (Authorized Representative) Date
Name and Title (print or type)

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Appendix B2

SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84 - PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Rev. August 2011

PROJECT NAME Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration: A Sierra Nevada Region water purveyor and federal land manager working together to protect water supplies within the Sierra Nevada

APPLICANT NAME (Legal name, address, and zip code)

Daniel Corcoran, Environmental Manager

El Dorado Irrigation District

2890 Mosquito Road

Placerville, CA 95667

Duane Nelson, Placerville District Ranger

Eldorado National Forest

4260 Eight Mile Road

Placerville, CA 95709

PERSON WITH FISCAL MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY FOR GRANT CONTRACT/INVOICING

Name and title – type or print

Phone

Email Address

Mr. Daniel Corcoran, Environmental Manager

(530) 642-4082

dcorcoran@eid.org

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR PLANNING DIRECTOR CONTACT INFORMATION (<u>At least</u> one entry is required)

Name: Roger Trout, Development Services Director

Phone Number: (530)621-5775

2850 Fairlane Court, Building C

Placerville, CA 95667

NEAREST PUBLIC WATER AGENCY (OR AGENCIES) CONTACT INFORMATION (At least one entry Is

required)

Name: Kyburz Mutual Water Company

Phone Number: (530)293-3270

PO Box 33 Kyburz, CA

Name: Eldorado Irrigation District

Phone Number: (530)622-4055

2890 Mosquito Road Placerville, CA 95667

Please identify the appropriate project category below and provide the associated details (Choose One)

Category One Site Improvement X Category Two Pre-Project Activities

Category One Conservation Easement Acquisition

☐ Site Improvement/Conservation Easement Acquisition	Select <u>one</u> primary Site Improvement/Conservati	on Easement		
Project area:	Acquisition deliverable			
Total Acres:	Restoration			
SNC Portion (if different):	☐ Enhancement			
Total Miles (i.e. river or stream bank):	Resource Protection			
SNC Portion (if different):	☐ Infrastructure Development / Improvement			
	Conservation Easement			
For Conservation Easement Acquisitions Only Appraisal Included				
Will submit appraisal by	0.1			
X Pre-Project Activities	Select <u>one</u> primary Pre-P	<u> </u>		
	Permit	ConditionAssessment		
	X CEQA/NEPA Compliance	☐ Biological Survey		
	☐ Appraisal ☐ Plan	Environmental Site Assessment		

4

9

10

21

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT

APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84 GRANTS PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006 CAPLES CREEK WATERSHED FUEL REDUCTION AND MEADOW RESTORATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Legislature, Governor, and the taxpayers of the State of California have provided funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the SNC require a resolution certifying the approval of an application by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, EID has identified the Caples Creek Watershed Fuel Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals; and

WHEREAS, EID has determined that the Caples Creek Watershed Fuel Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT that this Board:

- 1. Approves the submittal of an application for the Caples Creek Watershed Fuel Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project; and
- 2. Certifies that EID understands the assurances and certification requirements in the application; and
- 3. Certifies that EID will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the resources consistent with the long-term benefits described in support of the application, or will secure the resources to do so; and

, 1	4. Certifies that EID will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the
2	application process; and
3	5. Appoints Dan Corcoran, or designee, as agent to conduct all applications, agreements,
4	payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the
5	aforementioned project.
	The foregoing Resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of
6	EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT, held on the 23rd day of January 2012, by Director
7	Wheeldon, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Director Fraser, and a poll vote
8	taken which stood as follows:
9	AYES: Directors Wheeldon, Fraser, Osborne, George, and Day
10	NOES:
11	ABSENT:
12	ABSTAIN:
	The motion having a majority of votes "Aye", the resolution was declared to have been
13	adopted, and it was so ordered.
,4	Pill Com Dill
15	Bill George, President Board of Directors
16	EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
17	ATTEST:
18	
19	- Hacliner
20	Jennifer/Sullivan Clerk to the Board
21	EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
22	
	(SEAL)
23	
24	
25	
26	//
17	

I, the undersigned, Clerk to the Board of EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT hereby , 1 certify that the foregoing resolution is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution of the Board of 2 Directors of EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT entered into and adopted at a regular meeting 3 of the Board of Directors held on the 23rd day of January 2012. 4 5 6 Jennifer Sullivan Clerk to the Board 7 EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT 8 // 9 // 10 // 11 // 12 // 13 4 // 15 // 16 // 17 // 18 // 19 // 20 21 // 22 // 23 // 24 25 26 27

100 Forni Road Placerville, CA 95667 (530) 622-5061 (Voice) (530) 642-5122 (TTY)

File Code: 2520

Date: January 19, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Sir or Madam,

I want to express my support for the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) joint application for Category 2 Healthy Forests Grant Program from Sierra Nevada Conservancy. This project will provide a statewide example of how local agencies and entities can work with their adjacent federal land partners in managing and maintaining healthy forests for all California residents. In doing so, such projects will help ensure safe and reliable water supplies as outlined in the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

This grant would help initiate a planning effort that will have long term beneficial impacts on the Caples watershed and associated ecosystem services. This grant will leverage further investments by the Eldorado National Forest and other partners into this project that will assure completion the planning effort and project implementation over the next 5 to 10 years.

The Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project will implement ecological restoration activities within the Caples Creek watershed. Meadow restoration and reintroducing fire back into the landscape were needs described in the recently completed Watershed Condition Framework Analysis for the Eldorado National Forest, and specifically within the Caples Priority Watershed.

A key component of this proposal is applying prescribed fire within the western 4000 acres of the watershed after nearly a century of fire exclusion. The reintroduction of fire under controlled conditions will restore a vital ecosystem process in the watershed improving forest health and wildlife habitat, reducing susceptibility to large high severity fire, and increasing plant diversity. Meadow restoration activities will improve the hydrologic function of these meadows and improve plant diversity within these important communities. The Caples watershed is a primary water supply source for the 110,000 people and businesses who rely upon EID for water and thereby their livelihood. This watershed also provides high quality back country recreation and fisheries in a large contiguous block of forest that is recommended for wilderness designation by USFS.

The Eldorado National Forest is requesting your consideration for full funding of \$75,000 to EID and USFS. The funding will compliment the cost of planning which will enable this important project to move forward to implementation. Restoration of the Caples Creek watershed will





assure continued delivery of ecological services, and illustrate how these joint ventures can be successfully implemented in other portions of the Sierra Nevada regional boundary.

Sincerely,

/s/ Kathryn D. Hardy KATHRYN D. HARDY Forest Supervisor

cc: Kimberly A Morales Duane Nelson Rick G Hopson

Project Summary

This grant will involve planning and environmental review for fuels and meadow restoration work within the Caples Creek watershed, which was identified as a restoration priority by previous Forest Service analyses. The project outcome will be a NEPA document and decision including measures needed to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire and restore ecosystem function to 4,000 acres of forest land and multiple meadows. Deliverables include specialist reports, proposed action, NEPA document, and decision.

Environmental Setting

The watershed is 30 miles east of Placerville and contains 92% Forest land. It is a primary water supply for 110,000 people & businesses who rely upon EID for water; and provides high quality back country recreation and fisheries in an area recommended for wilderness designation.

Goals

This project will demonstrate how a water purveyor, such as EID, can develop partnerships with land managers, such as the Forest Service, to guide and implement activities that will ensure high quality water and desired site conditions for the foreseeable future.

Scope

The project will conduct planning needed for projects in the Caples Creek Watershed Restoration Action Plan (WRAP) developed as part of the Forest Service's nationwide Watershed Condition Framework (described in the project pre-application). Efforts will focus on two issues: (1) reintroduction of fire and management of fire-adapted ecosystems, and (2) meadow restoration. EID and the Forest Service will refine areas of the watershed for restoration, develop appropriate restoration actions for each area, identify an implementation schedule, and conduct appropriate environmental review for the actions to be conducted. Planning for fire activities will be focused on the western approximately 4,000 acres of the watershed. Meadows targeted include: Schneider Camp Meadow, Jake Schneider Meadow, Government Meadows, Convict Meadow, and multiple unnamed meadows.

Project Description

Fire suppression over the past century has resulted in decreased forest health and resilience in the Caples Creek watershed. Heavy fuel loading is a concern where pre-settlement fire return intervals were 5 and 35 years, with generally low to mixed severity, and have now lengthened to 35 to 100 years. Lengthened fire return intervals have allowed for accumulations of dead woody materials and a dense understory of brush and/or saplings; and have influenced stand structure, density, and distribution. These conditions have greatly increased the risk of catastrophic fire within the watershed.

The project will manage for desired fuels conditions by establishing/maintaining treatments that are effective in modifying fire behavior; culturing stand structure and composition to resemble desired conditions; and reducing susceptibility to insect/pathogen and drought-related tree mortality. Desired conditions for the watershed generally resemble pre-settlement conditions with high levels of horizontal and vertical diversity at the landscape scale; species composition that varies by elevation, site productivity, and related environmental factors; and fuel treatments that provide for successful establishment of early seral stage vegetation. Proposed activities will focus on prescribed fire and management of natural ignitions.

Ground disturbance, soil compaction, vegetation loss, and altered hydrology, have occurred to varying degrees in meadows within the watershed; and at some sites have led to streambed incision, lowering

of the groundwater table, and changes in vegetation composition. At Schneider Camp Meadow, for example, impacts (impaired function, hydrologic disruption, vegetation loss, reduced soil productivity) occur from road and trail erosion, vehicle use on the meadow and in the stream channel, and dispersed recreation. Dispersed recreation has also led to impacts to riparian areas and meadows in the vicinity of road segments identified on the included map.

Meadows in desired condition generally have species composition and structural diversity of plant and animal communities that provide desired habitat conditions and ecological functions; ecological status of vegetation that is late seral with a diversity of age classes of hardwood shrubs present and regeneration occurring; and are hydrologically functional with sites of accelerated erosion stabilized or recovering and vegetation roots occurring throughout the soil profile. The WRAP indicates that activities that may help achieve these conditions include: aspen enhancement, trail rerouting, stabilization of eroded areas, limiting access to sensitive areas, and developing recreation opportunities away from sensitive areas.

Historical fire data, Proper Functioning Condition Assessments, long-term range condition and monitoring plots, and collected survey data will be considered in project development. An interdisciplinary team will develop appropriate BMP applications for maintaining/improving water quality.

Workplan and Schedule

ENF's role:

- Provide interdisciplinary team (IDT)
- Survey/inventory
- NEPA
- Performance data collection/analysis
- Provide information for progress & final reports
- Establish/maintain financial records

EID's role:

- Grant management
- Document review and stakeholder input
- Progress & final report submissions
- Grant contract/invoicing

WORK SCHEDULE*

DELIVERABLES	COMPLETION DATE
Work begins	August 2012
Survey/inventory	9/30/14
Progress reports	2/28/13, 8/31/13, 2/28/14, 8/31/14
Start NEPA. Proposed Action/Purpose & Need.	10/31/14
Public Involvement Plan & Scoping	1/31/15
Progress report	2/28/15
Issues & Alternatives	3/31/15
Specialist reports	5/31/15
Progress report	8/31/15
NEPA document written	8/31/15
Comment period & analysis	11/30/15
Write decision document	3/31/16
Project Completed	4/30/16
Final report	4/30/16
Performance Measure Reporting	4/30/17, 4/30/19

^{*}Resources needed: IDT, vehicle costs/mileage, administrative costs.

Restrictions, Technical/Environmental Documents and Agreements

A Memorandum of Understanding between the USFS and EID will be developed prior to beginning SNC funded work.

Permits Potentially Needed for Implementation

Permitting Agency	Type of Requirement
Army Corps of Engineers	Clean Water Act, Section 404 Permit ¹
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control	401 Water Quality Certification ¹
Board	Waste Discharge Requirement ¹
	NPDES Permit ¹
	Construction General Permit ¹
State Office of Historic Preservation	National Historic Preservation Act. Section 106 ²
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Endangered Species Act, Section 7 consultation ³
Alpine, Eldorado, and Great Basin Air Districts	Smoke Permit

¹To be obtained if needed

The project will produce a NEPA document & decision and is statutorily exempt from CEQA under Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines as a planning study. The NEPA document could be used to satisfy CEQA requirements (Guidelines Section 15221) when implementing the project.

Organizational Capacity:

ELDORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT:

Dan Corcoran, Environmental Manager

ELDORADO NATIONAL FOREST INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM:

Name	Position	Degree(s)	Years Relevant Experience
Duane Nelson	Placerville District Ranger	B.S.	32
Rick Hopson	Amador District Ranger	B.S., M.S.	17
Kim Morales	Hydrologist (IDT Leader)	B.S., M.S.	14
Sue Rodman	Forest Planner (Writer-Editor)	B.S.	32
Eric Whiteman	Archaeologist	B.A., M.A.	18
Matt Brown	Botanist	B.S., M.S.	8
Teresa Riesenhuber	District Fuels Officer	A.A.	20
Robyn Woods	District Fuels Officer	B.S.	15
Steve Markman	Hydrologist	B.S., M.S.	23
Chuck Loffland	Wildlife Biologist	A.S, B.S.	22
Beck Estes	Research Ecologist	B.S., M.S., Ph.D.	7
Jim Koltun	Transportation Planner	B.S.	30
Jann Williams	Fisheries Biologist	B.S.	18
Tina Garcia	Rangeland Specialist	B.S.	18
Cathy Bounds	Special Uses	B.S.	12
Eric Nicita	Soil Scientist	B.S.	17
Deb Tatman	GIS Program Manager	B.A.	33

²Compliance prior to decision

³Signed BA/BE prior to decision

Cooperation and Community Support

Letters of support are included in this grant from the following sources:

- El Dorado County & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts
- El Dorado County Water Agency
- El Dorado County Fire Safe Council
- Sierra Forest Legacy

EID and the Forest Service have also reached out to the following additional stakeholders who have exhibited support for the project: Sue Britting (California Native Plant Society), Rich Platt (El Dorado County Fish and Game Commission), Rich Wade (Sierra Pacific Industries), Peter Maurer (El Dorado County Planning Department), and Roger Bloom (California Department of Fish and Game Heritage and Wild Trout Program).

Scoping is performed for all Forest Service proposals and analysis of scoping comments received will be used to identify issues. Dependent upon interest, the Eldorado National Forest and EID webpages, informational discussions, and field trips may be used to further engage the public.

Long-Term Management and Sustainability

Once fuel loadings are restored to a more natural condition through use of prescribed fire, the Forest Service intends to manage natural fire ignitions at this elevation and allow fire to play its natural role in the ecosystem. Consistent with the Region 5 Forest Service Handbook 2509.22 (Soil and Water Conservation, Chapter 10, Water Quality Handbook), Best Management Practices implementation checklists will be used following fuels and meadow project implementation to document whether, and when, the site-specific BMPs specified in the NEPA analysis were implemented and to identify and correct any deficiencies. This should help to ensure long-term maintenance of water quality.

Performance Measures

The following quantitative performance measures that all grantees are asked to consider are applicable to the proposed project: Number of People Reached, Dollar Value of Resources Leveraged, and Number & Type of Jobs Created. New, Improved, or Preserved Economic Activities may be difficult to estimate given the nature of the project and the spectrum of benefits anticipated.

The following SNC-suggested performance measures for pre-project planning are applicable to the proposed project: Number of Collaboratively Developed Plans and Assessments, and Percent of Pre-project and Planning Efforts Implemented. Measurable Change in Knowledge or Behavior may be difficult to estimate. While evaluation of increased public acceptance of prescribed fire or meadow restoration may be possible, specialized expertise beyond that needed to implement the project itself may be required to design, implement, or analyze results of related questionnaires/focus groups/activities.

Appendix B3 SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY **PROPOSITION 84 - DETAILED BUDGET FORM**

Project Name: Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration: A Sierra Nevada water purveyor and federal land manager working together to protect water supplies within the Sierra Nevada.

Applicant: El Dorado Irrigation District & Eldorado National Forest

SECTION ONE DIRECT COSTS	CY2012 Year One	CY2013 Year Two	CY2014 Year Three	CY2015 Year Four	CY2016 Year Five	Total
Team Leader	\$273.56	\$494.87	100 1100	100.100.	100.1110	\$768.43
Writer-Editor	V =10100	*************************************				\$0.00
Archaeologist		\$3,703.49				\$3,703.49
Botanist		\$3,394.23				\$3,394.23
Hydrologist	\$4,811.76					\$4,811.76
District Fuels Officer	\$1,353.63					\$1,353.63
District Fuels Officer	\$1,867.08					\$1,867.08
Wildlife Biologist		\$3,483.17				\$3,483.17
Research Ecologist		\$2,670.62				\$2,670.62
Transportation Planner		\$1,786.83				\$1,786.83
Fisheries Biologist	\$1,419.74	\$2,568.37				\$3,988.11
Rangeland Specialist		\$511.00				\$511.00
Special Uses		\$440.79				\$440.79
Soil Scientist		\$2,574.44				\$2,574.44
Archaeology Crew		\$4,784.64				\$4,784.64
Archaelogy Crew		\$9,663.66				\$9,663.66
Botany Crew		\$2,706.93				\$2,706.93
Botany Crew		\$3,354.25				\$3,354.25
Fisheries Crew	\$441.36	\$798.44				\$1,239.80
Fisheries Crew	\$686.72	\$1,242.43				\$1,929.15
Fuels Crew	\$1,147.51					\$1,147.51
Fuels Crew	\$1,407.76					\$1,407.76
Wildlife Crew		\$4,877.35				\$4,877.35
Wildlife Crew		\$4,877.35				\$4,877.35
GIS Staff	\$515.31					\$515.31
Vehicle expenses (mileage) DIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$1,315.96 \$15,240.39	\$5,141.87 \$59,074.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,457.83 \$74,315.12

SECTION TWO	CY2012	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	CY2016	
INDIRECT COSTS	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
Progress & Performance Reports	342.44	342.44				684.88
INDIRECT COSTS SUBTOTAL:	\$342.44	\$342.44	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$684.88
PROJECT TOTAL:	\$15,582.83	\$59,417.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00

SECTION THREE						
Administrative Costs (Costs may not to exceed 15% of total Project Cost):						
Overhead Costs - Not requested	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
ADMINISTRATIVE TOTAL:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
SNC TOTAL GRANT REQUEST:	\$15,582.83	\$59,417.17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75,000.00

SECTION FOUR	CY2012	CY2013	CY2014	CY2015	CY2016	
OTHER PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS*	Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four	Year Five	Total
USFS Appropriated Funds	\$23,773.00	\$23,155.45	\$18,825.88	\$110,548.29	\$1,104.72	\$177,407.34
Total Other Contributions:	\$23,773.00	\$23,155.45	\$18,825.88	\$110,548.29	\$1,104.72	\$177,407.34

To: Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 212 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

El Dorado County Recorder-Clerk 360 Fair Lane Placerville, CA 95667

County Clerk County of Alpine P.O. Box 158 Markleeville, CA 96120

Amador County Recorder-Clerk 810 Court Street Jackson, CA 95642 From: El Dorado Irrigation District 2890 Mosquito Road Placerville, CA 95667



JAN 23 2012



Project Title: Caples Creek Watershed Fuel Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project

Project Location - Specific: Caples Creek Watershed on U.S. Forest Service Lands within El Dorado, Amador, and/or Alpine Counties

Project Location - City: approx 8 mi. SE of Kyburz Project Location - County: El Dorado, Amador, Alpine

Description of Nature, Purpose and Beneficiaries of Project: This project consists of planning efforts to implement a fuel reduction and meadow restoration actions within the Caples Creek watershed. During planning efforts EID and the Forest Service will identify areas of the watershed for restoration, determine what types of restoration actions are appropriate for each specific area, identify an implementation schedule, and conduct the appropriate CEQA/NEPA environmental review for the actions ultimately determined to be conducted. Potential restoration actions include reintroduction of fire and management of fire-adapted ecosystems. Previous Forest Service analysis has shown that fire suppression within the Caples Creek watershed over the past century has resulted in decreased forest health and resilience. Potential restoration actions also include meadow restoration. There are a number of meadow areas that have been impacted by past and ongoing activities including grazing, recreation and motorized vehicle use. Disturbances have compromised the functioning condition of some aspen stands, meadows, and streamside corridors.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: El Dorado Irrigation District

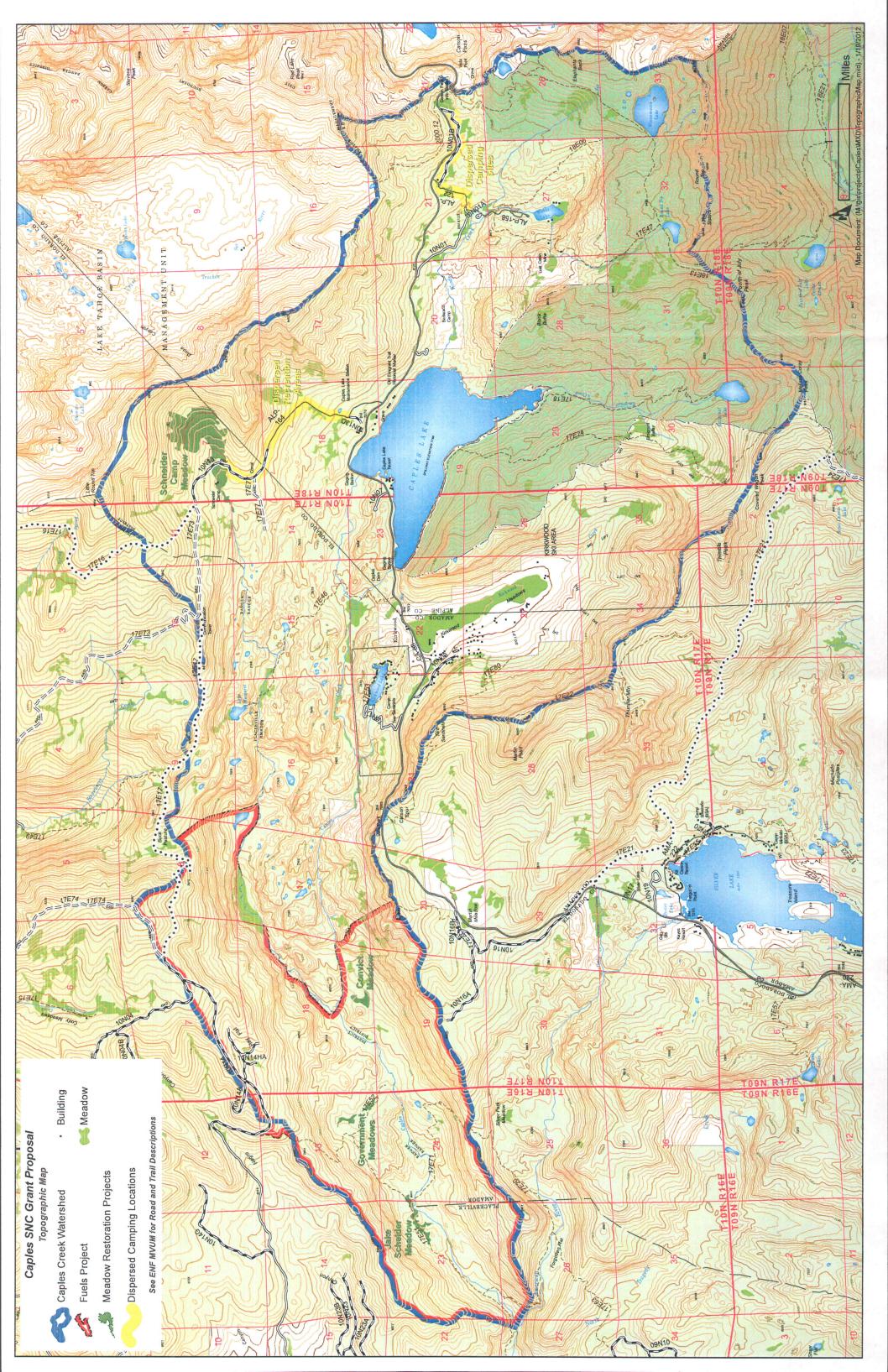
Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: El Dorado Irrigation District

Exempt Status: (check one)

	Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
	Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
	Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(2),(4); 15269(b),(c))
	Categorical Exemption. State type and section number:
\boxtimes	Statutory Exemptions. (Section 15262)

Contact Person: Dan Corcoran	Area Code/Telephone/Extension: 530-642-4082		
Signature:	Date: 1/23/12 Title: Environment	al Manager	
Signed by Lead Agency	Date received for filing at OPR:		
Signed by Applicant	Date received for fining at OPK.	Revised 2005	

Reasons why project is exempt: The project consists of a planning study of possible future actions which the El Dorado Irrigation District has not approved, adopted, or funded.





El Dorado County & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts
100 Forni Road, Suite A ● Placerville, CA 95667 ● Phone (530) 295-5630, Fax (530) 295-5635

January 9, 2012

Mr. Jim Branham, Executive Officer Mr. Bob Kingman, Mt. Lassen Area Manager Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Drive, Ste. 205 Auburn CA 95603

Subject: Letter of Support the "Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration: A Sierra Region water purveyor and federal land manager working together to protect water supplies within the Sierra Nevada" Grant Proposal under the Sierra Nevada Conservancy Proposition 84 Grants Program.

On November 7, 2006, California voters passed Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coast Protection Bond Act of 2006. Proposition 84 includes \$54 million for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) to distribute to eligible organizations for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources. I feel this project exemplifies the type of project that not only meets the intent of Proposition 84, but also the program guidelines for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's local assistance grants program.

The project exemplifies a collaborative approach between the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and the United States Forest Service (USFS). EID like most water purveyors in the region does not control land use activities within its watersheds. Instead, the land is managed by other public or private entities. In this example, the Caples Creek 6th Field Watershed (20,236 acres) provides a significant portion of EID's upper South Fork American River watershed water supply. Land in this watershed is primarily owned by the USFS. The goal of this project is to demonstrate how a water purveyor, such as EID, can develop partnerships with land use managers, such as the USFS, to guide and implement activities that will ensure continued high quality water for the foreseeable future.

The Caples Creek Watershed has recently been evaluated by the USFS as part of a nation-wide effort called Watershed Condition Framework (WCF) to document watershed conditions and prioritize efforts to maintain or improve watershed health. The WCF outlines a six-step process to treat whole watersheds with an integrated set of watershed-scale restoration treatments designed to improve the current conditions of watersheds, restore degraded habitats, and provide long term protection to soils, aquatic, and riparian resources. The project is also consistent with the goals and objectives outlined in the South Fork American River Watershed Management Plan (2011).

Thank you for your consideration in the approval of the Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project grant application. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact me at 530-295-5630.

Sincerely,

Mark Egbert

District Manager

CPESC #6350

El Dorado County & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts

100 Forni Road, Suite A Placerville, CA 95667

(p) 530-295-5630, (f) 530-295-5635

Mark.Egbert@ca.usda.gov



El Dorado County Water Agency

Ron Briggs Board of Supervisors John P. Fraser El Dorado Irrigation District James R. Jones South Tahoe P.U.D.

Ray Nutting Board of Supervisors James R. "Jack" Sweeney Board of Supervisors Dave Eggerton General Manager

Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Re: Grant Application for Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration

Dear Sir or Madam:

The El Dorado County Water Agency would like to express its support for the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) joint application for Category 2 Healthy Forests Grant Program from Sierra Nevada Conservancy. This project will provide a statewide example of how local agencies and entities can work with their adjacent federal land partners in managing and maintaining healthy forests for all California residents. In doing so, such projects will help ensure safe and reliable water supplies as outlined in the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

When implemented, the Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project will conduct restoration activities within approximately 4,000 acres of the Caples Creek watershed. The targeted areas of the watershed are in need or fuels reduction and other similar restoration activities such as meadow restoration as determined during a recent USFS nationwide Watershed Condition Framework to document watershed conditions and prioritize efforts to maintain or improve watershed health. The reintroduction of fire and management into the Caples Creek watershed will address the decreased forest health and resilence that has resulted from heavy suppression efforts over the past century. Not only is this watershed a primary water supply source for the 110,000 people and business who rely upon EID for water and thereby their livelihood, this watershed also provides a large contiguous block of forest that has been -recommended for wilderness designation by USFS.

The El Dorado County Water Agency is requesting your consideration for full funding of \$75,000 to EID and USFS to allow this important project to move forward to implement necessary restoration actions within the Caples Creek watershed and provide an example of how these joint ventures can be successfully implemented in other portions of the Sierra Nevada regional boundary.

Sincerely,

Dave Eggerton General Manager



El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

"Public and Private Partners Working Together to Protect People, Homes, and Natural Resources"

P.O. Box 1011

Diamond Springs, CA 95619 Phone: (530) 647-1700

Website: edcfiresafe.org

Email: board@edcfiresafe.org

January 18, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Re: Grant Application for Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration

Dear Sir or Madam:

The El Dorado County Fire Safe Council would like to express its support for the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) joint application for Category 2 Healthy Forests Grant Program from Sierra Nevada Conservancy. This project will provide a statewide example of how local agencies and entities can work with their adjacent federal land partners in managing and maintaining healthy forests for all California residents. In doing so, such projects will help ensure safe and reliable water supplies as outlined in the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

When implemented, the Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project will conduct restoration activities within approximately 4,000 acres of the Caples Creek watershed. The targeted areas of the watershed are in need or fuels reduction and other similar restoration activities such as meadow restoration as determined during a recent USFS nationwide Watershed Condition Framework to document watershed conditions and prioritize efforts to maintain or improve watershed health. The reintroduction of fire and management into the Caples Creek watershed will address the decreased forest health and resilence that has resulted from heavy suppression efforts over the past century. Not only is this watershed a primary water supply source for the 110,000 people and business who rely upon EID for water and thereby their livelihood, this watershed also provides a large contiguous block of forest that has been -recommended for wilderness designation by USFS.

The El Dorado County Fire Safe Council is requesting your consideration for full funding of \$75,000 to EID and USFS to allow this important project to move forward to implement necessary restoration actions within the Caples Creek watershed and provide an example of how these joint ventures can be successfully implemented in other portions of the Sierra Nevada regional boundary.

Respectfully,

Richard Krek, Chairperson

El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

cc: Dan Corcoran, Env. Div. Mgr., El Dorado Irrigation District, 2890 Mosquito Rd., Placerville, 95667

Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Re: Grant Application for Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration

Dear Sir/Madam,

Sierra Forest Legacy would like to express its support for the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) joint application for Category 2 Healthy Forests Grant Program from Sierra Nevada Conservancy. This project will provide a statewide example of how local agencies and entities can work with their adjacent federal land partners in managing and maintaining healthy forests for all California residents. In doing so, such projects will help ensure safe and reliable water supplies as outlined in the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

The Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project will implement restoration activities within approximately 4,000 acres of the Caples Creek watershed. The targeted areas of the watershed are in need of fuels reduction, meadow restoration and related projects as determined during a recently completed Watershed Condition Framework Analysis for the Eldorado National Forest. A key component of this proposal is reintroduction of fire into the western 4000 acres of the watershed after nearly a century of fire exclusion through aggressive fire suppression. The reintroduction of fire under controlled conditions will restore a vital ecosystem process in the watershed improving forest health and wildlife habitat, reducing susceptibility to large high severity fire, and increasing plant diversity. Not only is this watershed a primary water supply source for the 110,000 people and business who rely upon EID for water and thereby their livelihood, this watershed also provides high quality back country recreation and fisheries in a large contiguous block of forest that has been -recommended for wilderness designation by USFS.

The Caples Creek area is a Wilderness Study Area and is managed to minimize impacts to its wilderness character. The project will implement management through use of prescribed fire that will provide a much needed re-establishment of key ecological processes while maintaining important wilderness characteristics such as a non-roaded nature. Impacts from a large,

uncharacteristic fire on the highly erosive, granitic soils would likely have unwanted significant impacts on the public water supply that travels through this landscape and would increase sedimentation in a highly valued recreational trout fishery.

Sierra Forest Legacy has been key stakeholders in the management of the Caples Creek landscape for 25 years. We are requesting your consideration for full funding of \$75,000 to EID and USFS to allow this important project to move forward to implement necessary restoration actions within the Caples Creek watershed and provide an example of how these joint ventures can be successfully implemented in other portions of the Sierra Nevada regional boundary.

Sincerely,

haig Thomas

Craig Thomas, Executive Director

Sierra Forest Legacy

P.O. Box 244

Garden Valley, CA 95633

100 Forni Road Placerville, CA 95667 (530) 622-5061 (Voice) (530) 642-5122 (TTY)

File Code: 2520

Date: January 19, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Sir or Madam,

I want to express my support for the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) joint application for Category 2 Healthy Forests Grant Program from Sierra Nevada Conservancy. This project will provide a statewide example of how local agencies and entities can work with their adjacent federal land partners in managing and maintaining healthy forests for all California residents. In doing so, such projects will help ensure safe and reliable water supplies as outlined in the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84).

This grant would help initiate a planning effort that will have long term beneficial impacts on the Caples watershed and associated ecosystem services. This grant will leverage further investments by the Eldorado National Forest and other partners into this project that will assure completion the planning effort and project implementation over the next 5 to 10 years.

The Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project will implement ecological restoration activities within the Caples Creek watershed. Meadow restoration and reintroducing fire back into the landscape were needs described in the recently completed Watershed Condition Framework Analysis for the Eldorado National Forest, and specifically within the Caples Priority Watershed.

A key component of this proposal is applying prescribed fire within the western 4000 acres of the watershed after nearly a century of fire exclusion. The reintroduction of fire under controlled conditions will restore a vital ecosystem process in the watershed improving forest health and wildlife habitat, reducing susceptibility to large high severity fire, and increasing plant diversity. Meadow restoration activities will improve the hydrologic function of these meadows and improve plant diversity within these important communities. The Caples watershed is a primary water supply source for the 110,000 people and businesses who rely upon EID for water and thereby their livelihood. This watershed also provides high quality back country recreation and fisheries in a large contiguous block of forest that is recommended for wilderness designation by USFS.

The Eldorado National Forest is requesting your consideration for full funding of \$75,000 to EID and USFS. The funding will compliment the cost of planning which will enable this important project to move forward to implementation. Restoration of the Caples Creek watershed will





assure continued delivery of ecological services, and illustrate how these joint ventures can be successfully implemented in other portions of the Sierra Nevada regional boundary.

Sincerely,

KATHRYN D. HARDY

Forest Supervisor

cc: Kimberly A Morales, Duane Nelson, Rick G Hopson





Sierra Pacific Industries

Forestry Division - Camino District • P.O. Box 680 • Camino, California 95709 Phone (530) 644-2311 • FAX (530) 644-6205

January 23, 2012

Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Dr., Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

Re: Grant Application for Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration

Sierra Pacific Industries would like to express its support for funding the Caples Creek Watershed Fuels Reduction and Meadow Restoration Project, a joint application by the El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) for the Category 2 Healthy Forests Grant Program.

This project will implement fuel reduction and meadow restoration activities over an area of 4,000 acres in the Caples Creek watershed. Treatment areas have been identified and prioritized by the recently completed Watershed Condition Framework Analysis for the Eldorado National Forest. A key component of this proposal is the controlled reintroduction of fire into the western 4000 acres of the watershed, serving to reduce its susceptibility to a large high-severity fire. This watershed is a primary water supply source for the 110,000 people and businesses who rely upon EID for water, and is valued for its back country recreation and wilderness amenities.

SPI endorses fully funding the requested \$75,000 for the Caples Creek project. This project will provide a statewide example of how a local agency can work with its adjacent federal land partners in managing and maintaining healthy forests for all California residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application.

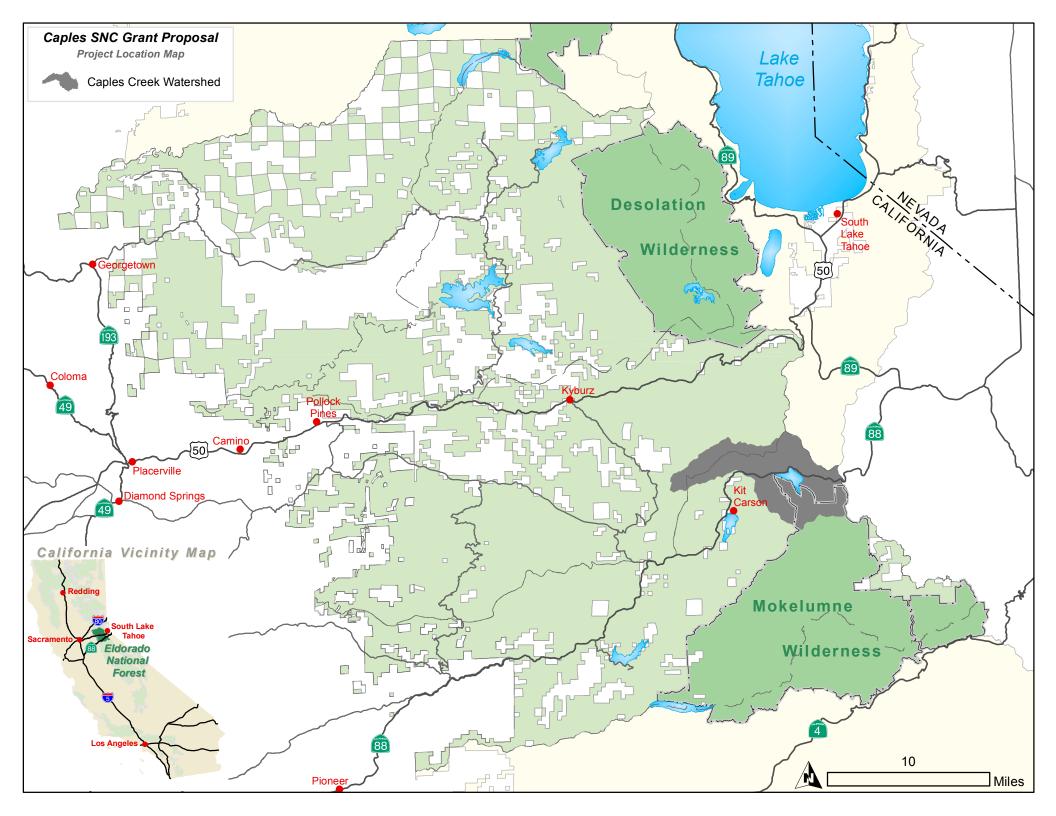
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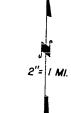
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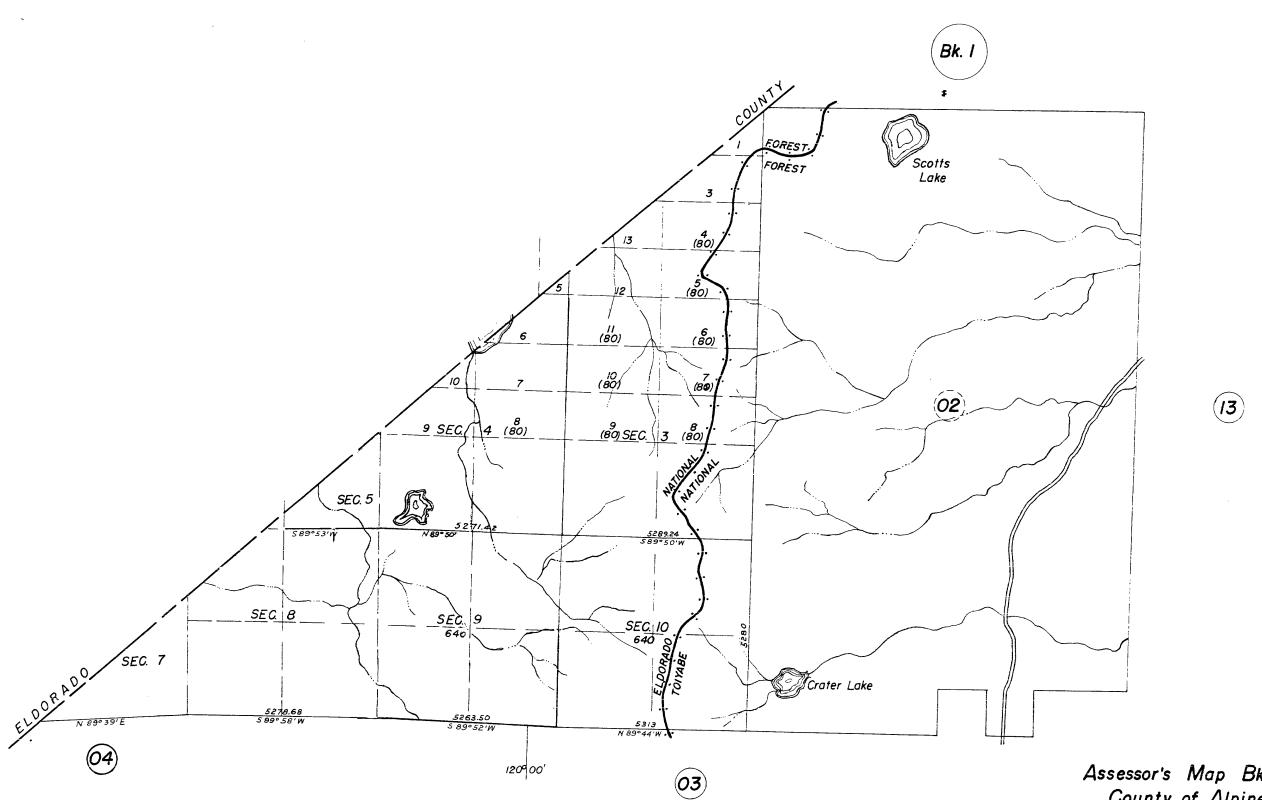
Camino District Manager



EG 564-2

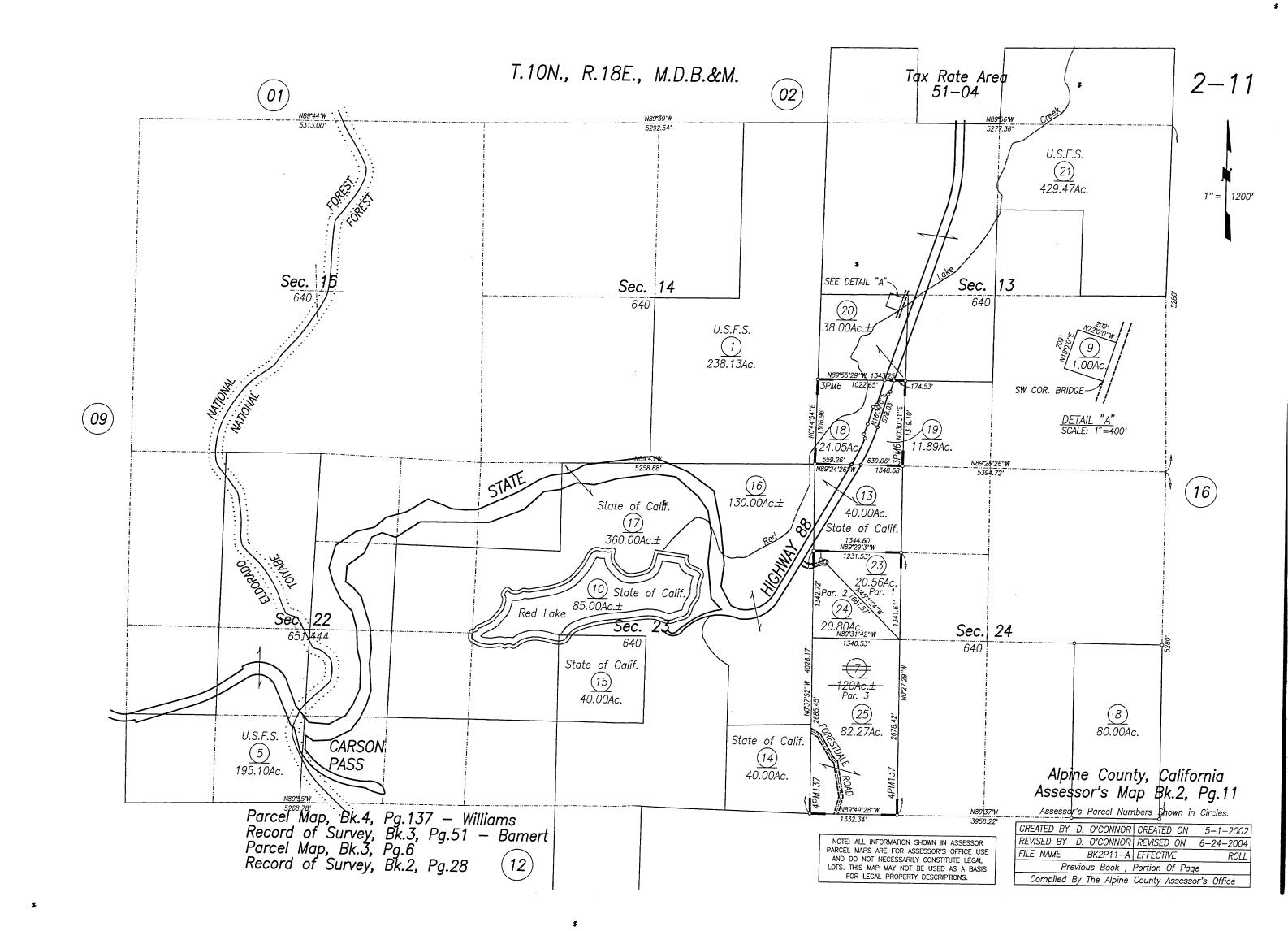


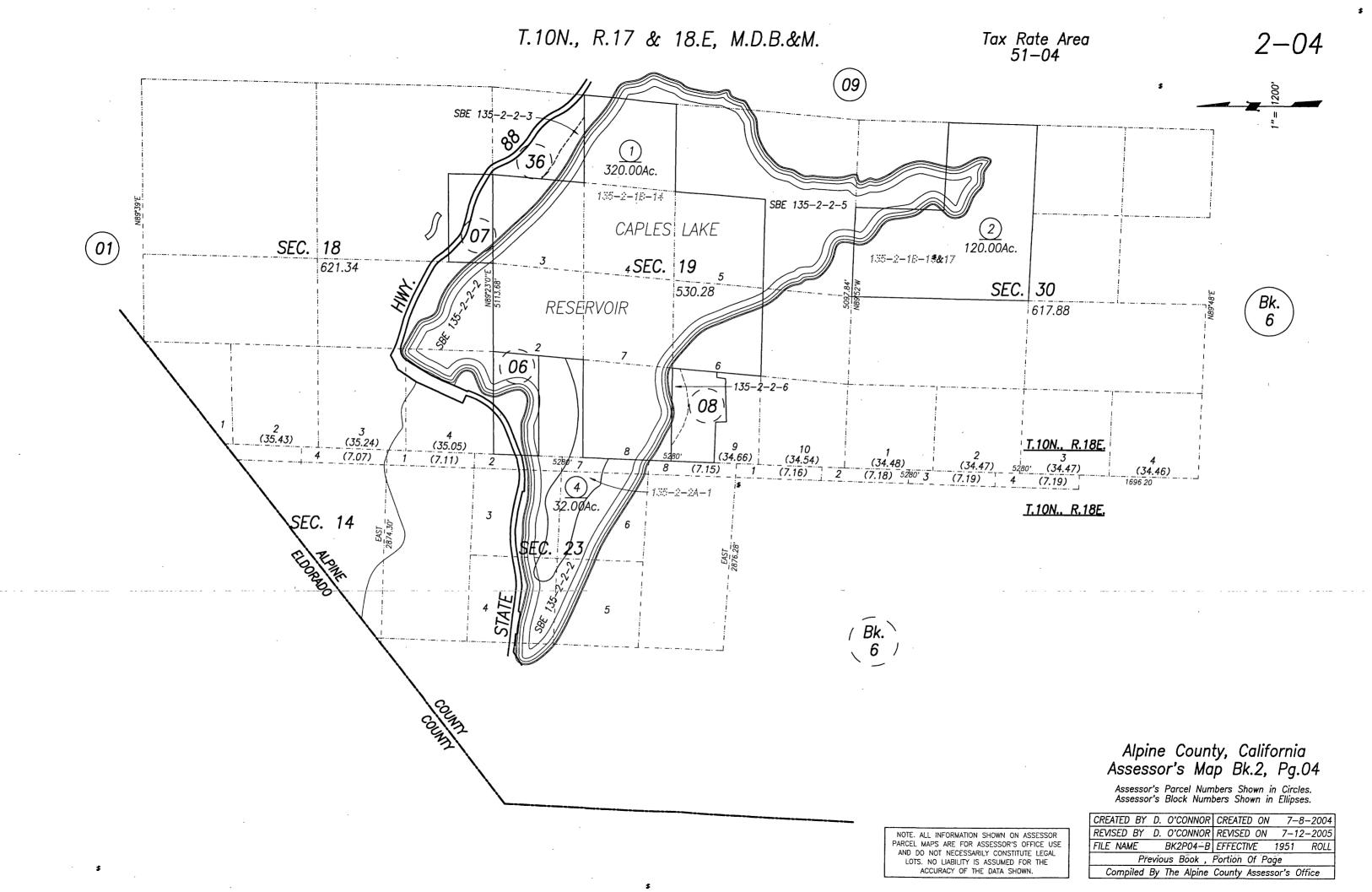


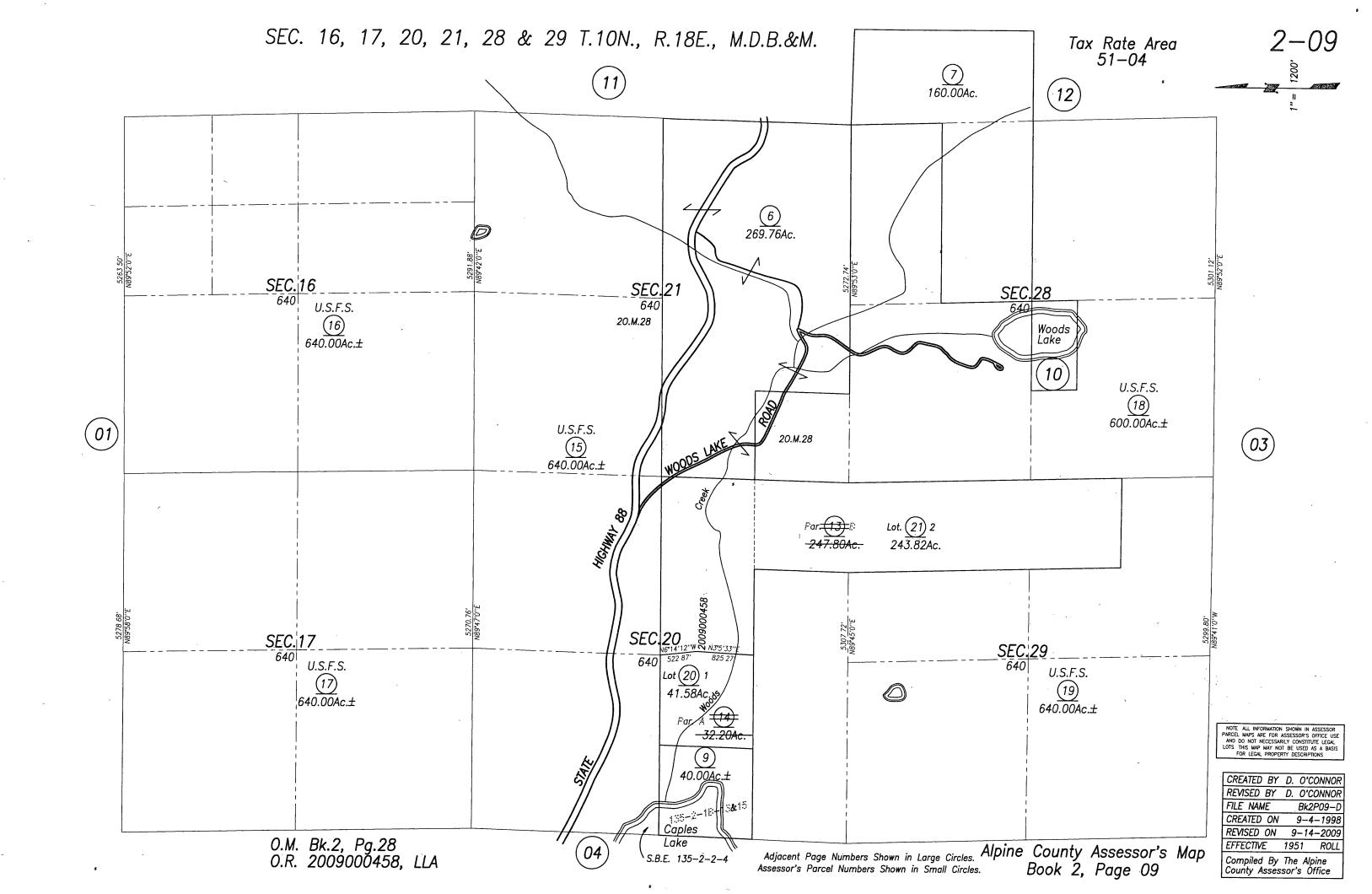


NOTE - ASSESSOR'S BLOCK & LOT NUMBERS SHOWN IN CIRCLES

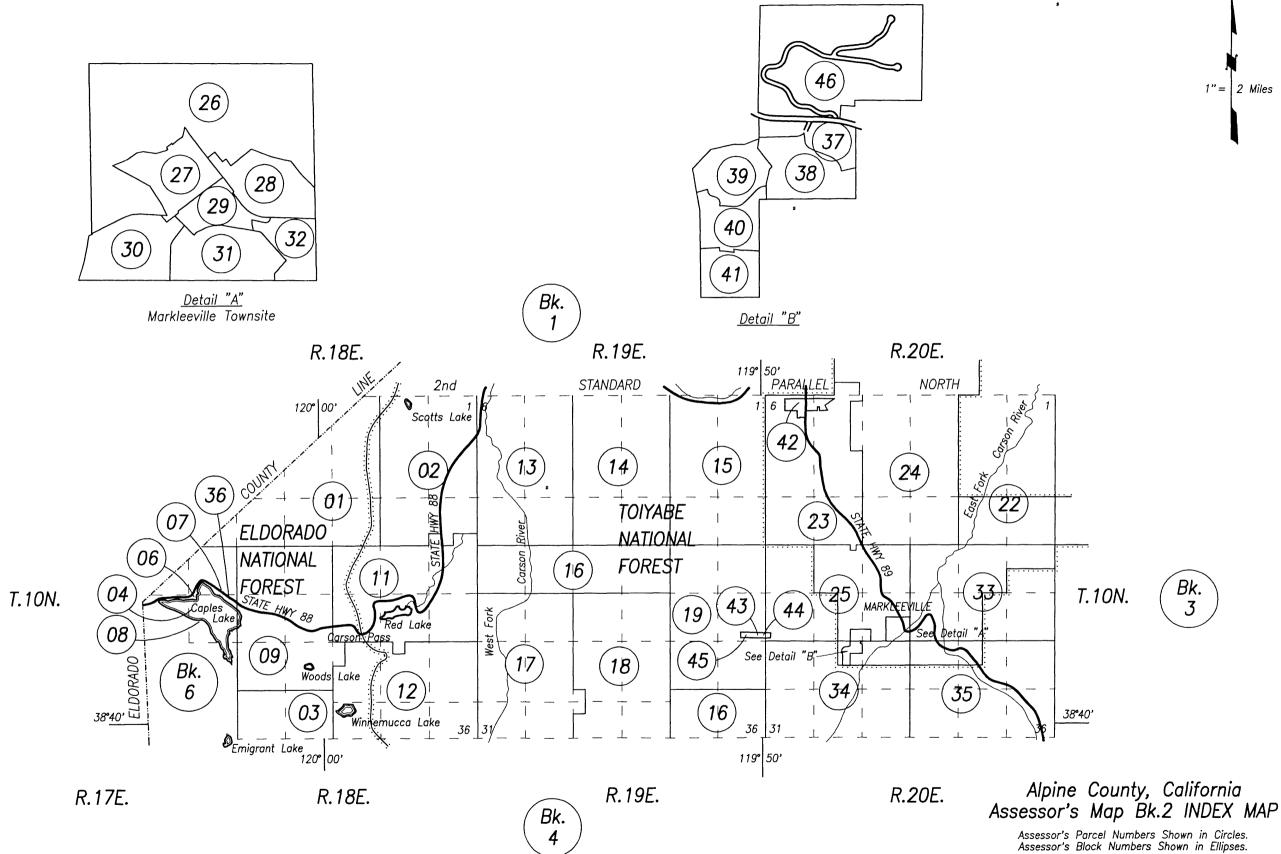
Assessor's Map Bk. 2-Pg. 01 County of Alpine, Calif.







BOOK 2 INDEX MAP

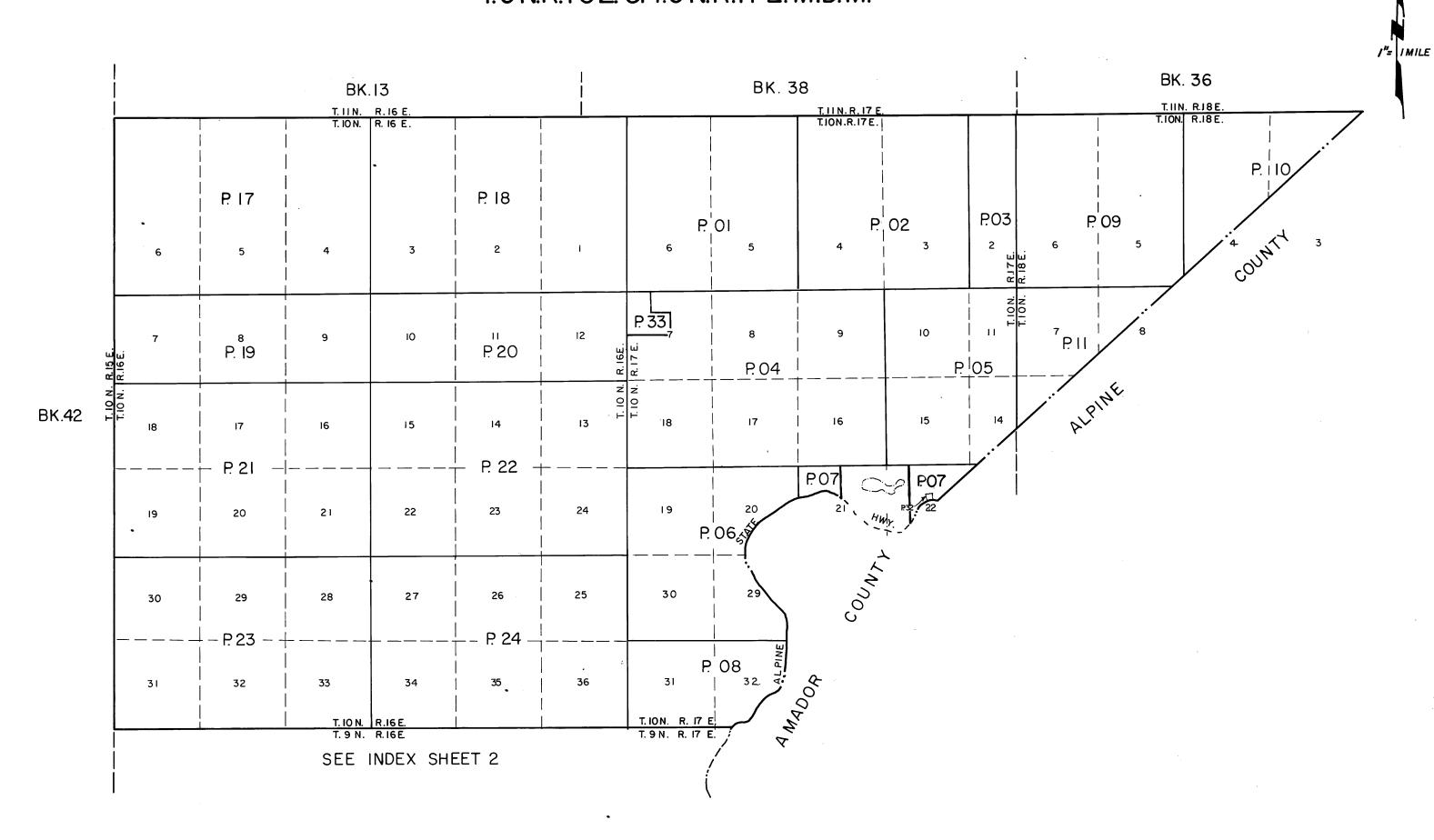


NOTE ALL INFORMATION SHOWN ON ASSESSOR PARCEL MAPS ARE FOR ASSESSOR'S OFFICE USE AND DO NOT NECESSARILY CONSTITUTE LEGAL LOTS NO LIABILITY IS ASSUMED FOR THE ACCURACY OF THE DATA SHOWN.

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	D. O'CONNOR		6-4-2009
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Compiled By The Alpine County Assessor's Office			

BOOK:39

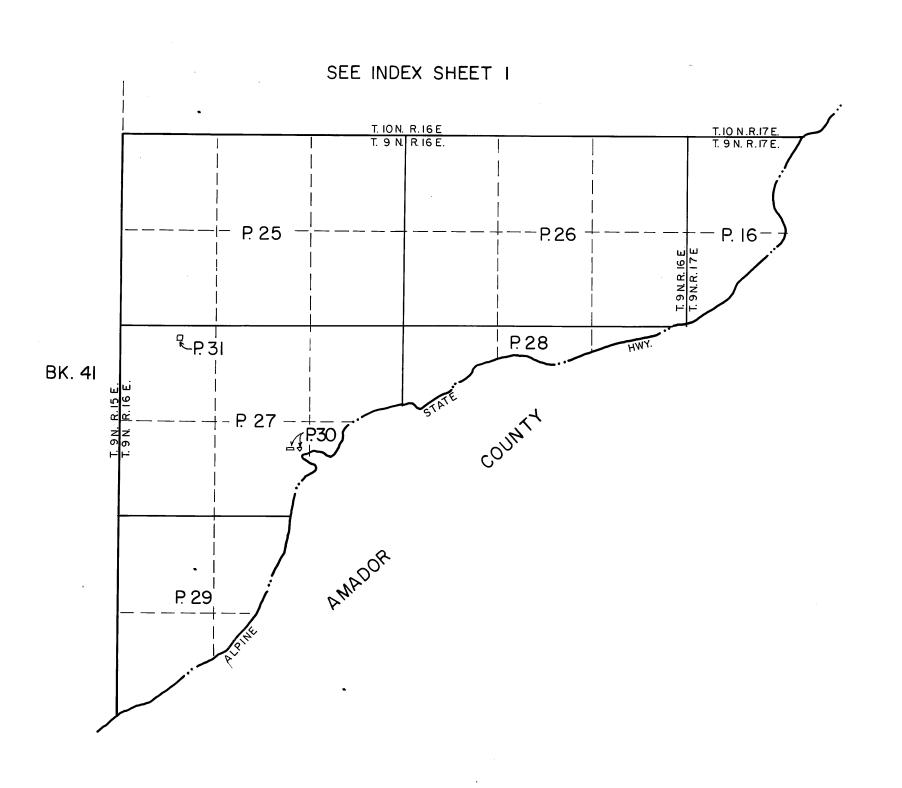
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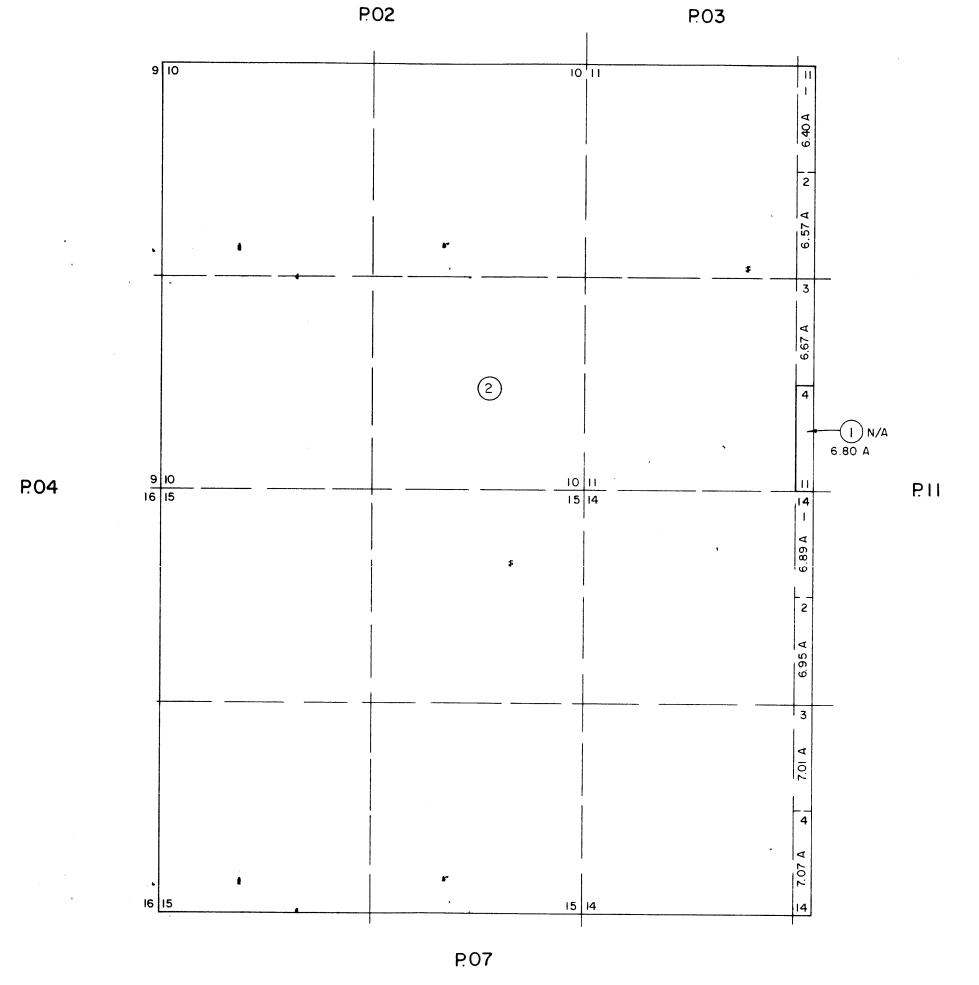
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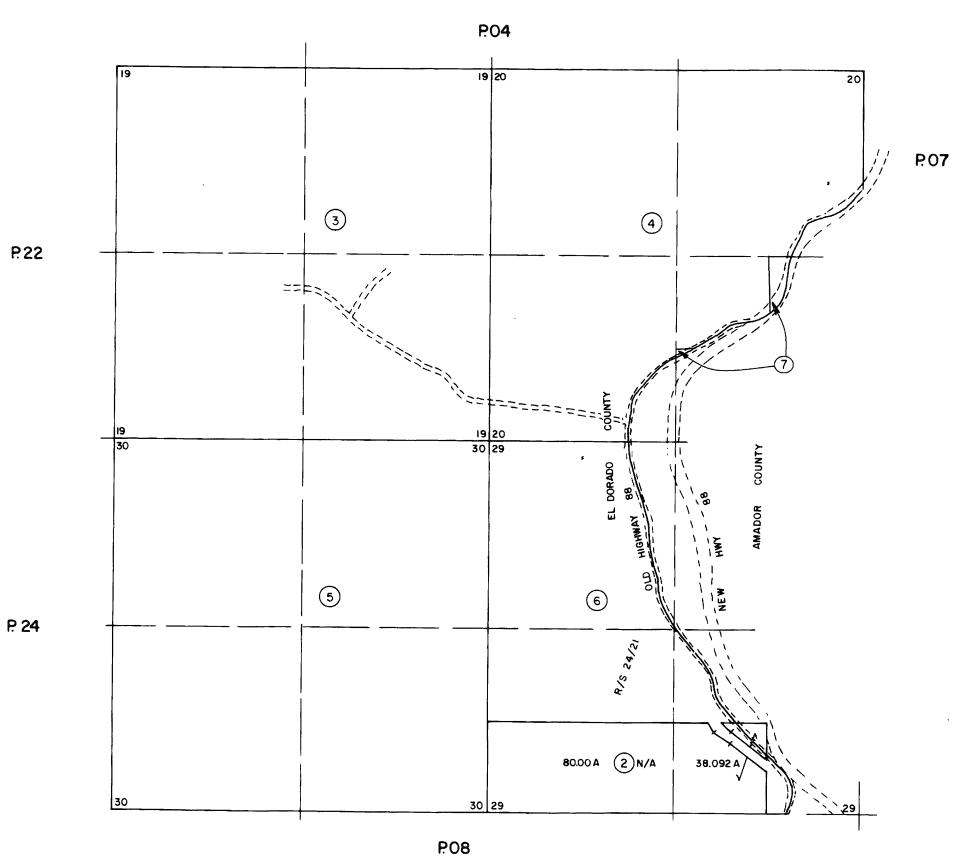


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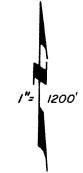


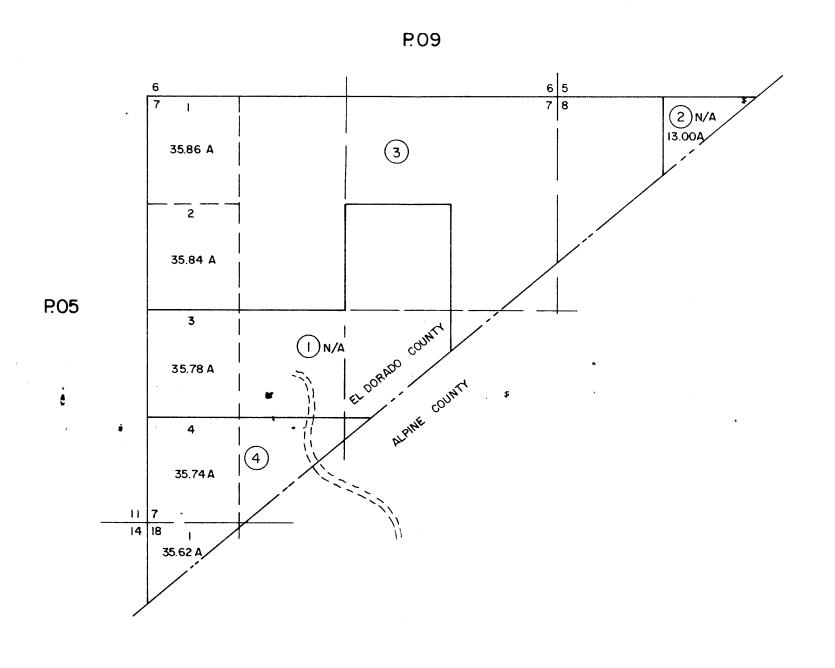
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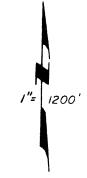


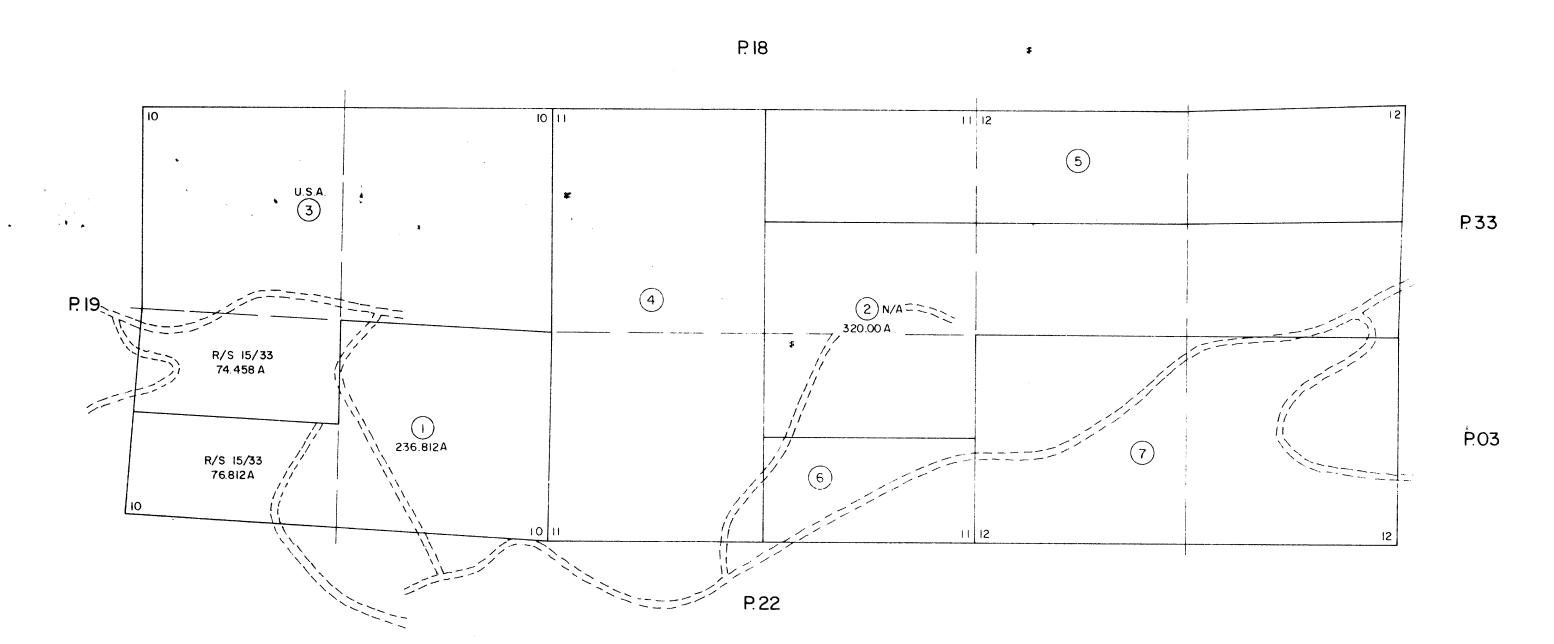


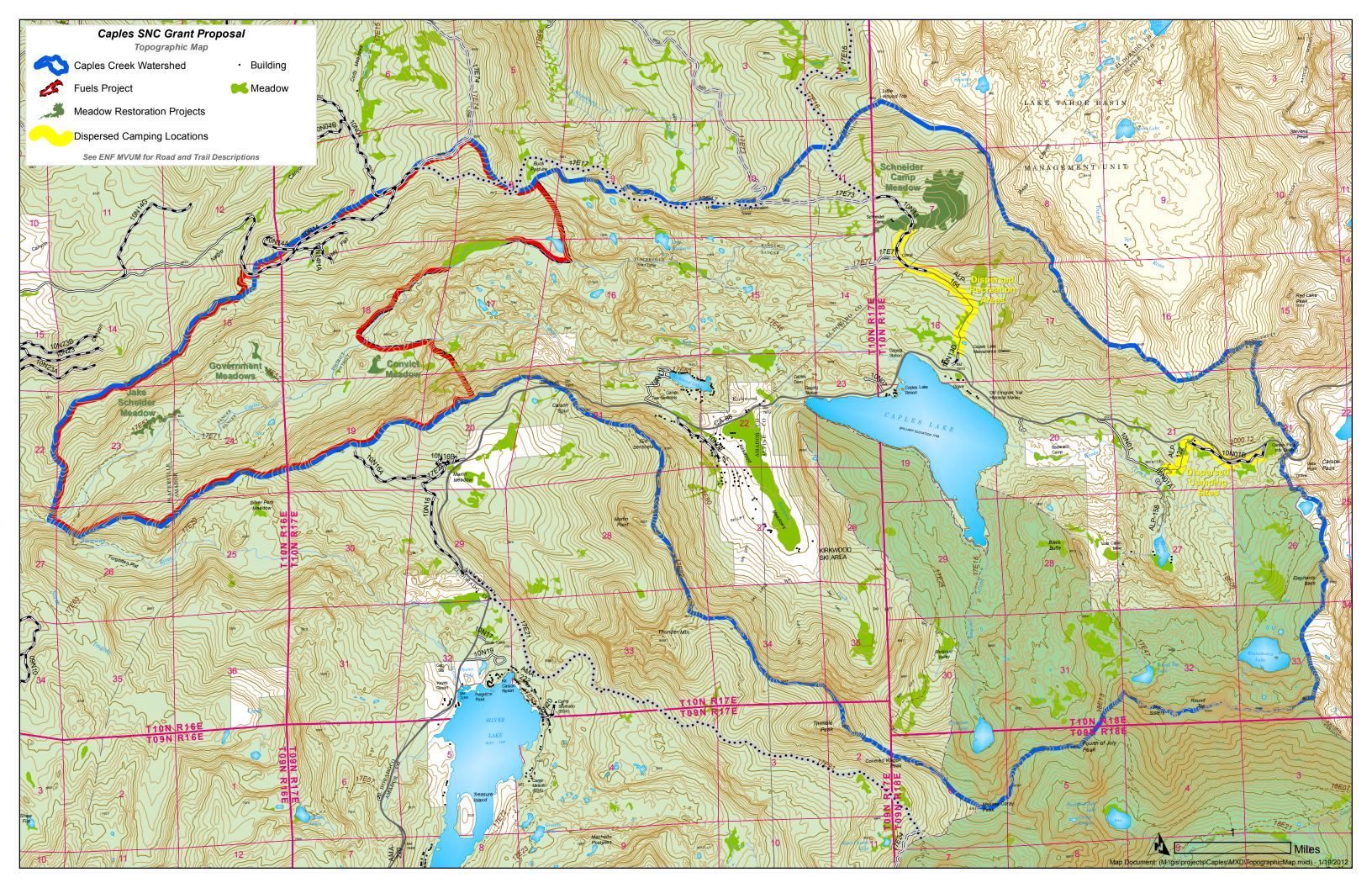














1. Schneider Camp Meadow: Information from Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) Assessments (USFS 2004, Still Water Sciences 2010) indicates that two roads are eroding sediment directly into Schneider Camp Meadow. USFS route 10N13, visible in the foreground of this photo, follows the eastern boundary of the meadow and crosses the stream channel at the upstream boundary of the meadow. A non-system route, which intersects 10N13 and leads to a livestock barn and unimproved camping area, forms a portion of the northern meadow boundary. Impaired meadow function and hydrologic disruption occur from these road related sources of increased sediment and runoff.



2. Schneider Camp Meadow: Schneider Camp Meadow is at risk of losing additional hydrologic function if actions are not taken to reduce road and trail related effects, such as the erosion visible in this photo. Easily erodible volcanic deposits with steep slopes and somewhat sparse vegetation add to sediment transport into the meadow via an eroding gully on the northwest side of the meadow and the stream that flows into the eastern side of the meadow.



3. Schneider Camp Meadow: Vehicles drive on Schneider Camp Meadow, as seen in this photo, and directly in the stream channel. Schneider Camp Meadow is classified in the moderately wet to dry wetness categories (SWS 2010). Epilobrium howellii (a sensitive plant species) occurrence near Schneider Cow Camp has been impacted by non-designated vehicle traffic and may have been extirpated from the site. Riparian wetland and rangeland vegetation have been degraded by driving in the meadow and soil productivity may be impaired. In addition to information contained in PFC assessments, vegetation conditions at Schneider Camp Meadow have been documented via a long-term range condition and monitoring plot (the meadow is part of the Cody Allotment) that is measured every five years.



4. Schneider Camp Meadow: Visible in the foreground of this photo, the intermittent stream that flows through Schneider Camp Meadow is now held together largely by willow. Active erosion features observed include: active headcuts (including a 3.5 foot relief headcut on the main channel, downstream of which the banks are actively failing), rill and gully erosion, streambed incision, undercut banks, stream bank alteration, and active sediment deposition. Rainbow trout were present in 2004. In addition to vehicle impacts, cattle trampling has altered surface flow paths in some portions of the meadow.

Visible in the background of this photo is Schneider Barn, which is on the northern side of the meadow. Vehicle tracks near the barn lead to several dispersed campsites. While a predominance of hydrophytic species and diversity of plant species exist in most parts of the meadow (five community types, including willow thickets, were identified by SWS in the meadow in 2010), areas supporting *Artemisia tridentata* with very high percent cover of bare ground reflect large impacts from human use along the barn and access road.



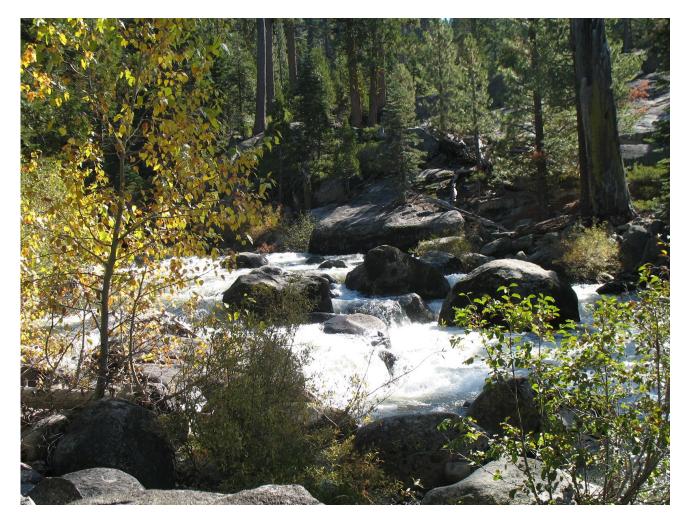
5. Government Meadows: Vegetation conditions within meadow and riparian areas have been documented via long-term range condition and trend monitoring plots within the watershed (two in Jake Schneider Meadow, two in Government Meadow, and one in Schneider Camp Meadow); Proper Functioning Condition Assessments done for range NEPA (Schneider Camp Meadow and Government Meadow) and by Still Water Sciences (Schneider Camp Meadow); and Rapid Assessments done for range NEPA (Convict Meadow).



6. Fuels Conditions Example: In the Caples Creek watershed, heavy fuel loading is a concern where pre-settlement fire return intervals were between 5 and 35 years, with generally low to mixed severity, and have now lengthened to 35 to 100 years. Lengthened fire return intervals have allowed for accumulations of dead woody materials and a dense understory of brush and/or saplings; and have influenced stand structure, density, and distribution. The site in this photo is located along the Caples Creek Trail, near where the trail runs along the Silver Fork American River.



7. Fuels Conditions Example: The Eldorado National Forest fire history geospatial layer indicates that approximately 47 fires occurred within the Caples Creek watershed since 1908. Those fires were not allowed to burn, however, and all were contained at less than eleven acres. Sites such as this are located along the Caples Creek Trail, near where the trail runs along the Silver Fork American River.



8. Silver Fork American River: The confluence of Caples Creek with the Silver Fork American River defines the lower boundary of the Caples Creek Watershed. Both the Silver Fork American River and Caples Creek are Class I productive streams with brown trout and rainbow trout. Pictured above is a segment of the Silver Fork American River, downstream of the project area.



9. Fuels Conditions Example: Longer fire return intervals allow for more fuel and vegetation to accumulate between fires, resulting in a higher severity fire than what may have occurred in pre-European settlement. Consequently, fires today kill more vegetation and are more difficult to control (FMP, 2009). The site in this photo is located along the Caples Creek Trail.



10. Caples Creek: The entire length of Caples Creek (pictured above) within the boundary of the proposed fuels project is Wild and Scenic River Status eligible. To be eligible for Wild and Scenic River designation, a river must be free-flowing and contain at least one "outstandingly remarkable value." The outstandingly remarkable values for Caples Creek are recreation and fisheries. Rivers in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System are further classified as Wild, Scenic, or Recreational, dependent upon on the extent of development and accessibility along each section. Caples Creek is considered to be a Wild river, meaning that it is "...free of impoundments, generally inaccessible except by trail (no roads), with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive, and having unpolluted waters. (http://www.rivers.gov/information.html)"